



Florida House of Representatives

Representative Ronald A. Brisé

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January 6, 2010

Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Access to broadband technology is an issue that affects all citizens of Florida and those in my district. As a State Representative, I am working to insure that individuals in my district and across Florida's cities and neighborhoods have every resource at their disposal, including broadband.

Broadband technology offers communities innumerable benefits including: increased access to healthcare tools, expanded educational opportunities, and skill-training programs for the unemployed. Why risk negating the positive impacts of the National Broadband Plan on areas like education, healthcare and public safety, by imposing uncertainty through net neutrality regulations?

One concern is that there are many in our state that still lack access to advanced technology and have yet to experience the benefits of broadband. The Commission must work to spur further deployment and demonstrate the value of broadband adoption in order to ensure that the digital divide does not grow wider.

I applaud initiatives advocating equal treatment, but not at the expense of broadband adoption and the risks imposed upon our community by net neutrality. I recognize that companies must have flexibility in their business practices so they can recoup expenses and invest in the business. If there is less incentive for network providers to invest in broadband expansion, it will be detrimental to our nation, and especially harmful to our minority communities.

Committees:

Select Policy Council on Strategic and Economic Planning
Full Appropriations Council on Education & Economic Development
Full Appropriations Council on General Government & Healthcare
State Universities & Private Colleges Appropriations Committee, *Democratic Ranking Member*
State Universities & Private Colleges Policy Committee



With this in mind, I wanted to voice our concern regarding certain aspects of the Commission's Open Intern NPRM. While we acknowledge the Commission's efforts in crafting a National Broadband Plan, we worry that imposing net neutrality regulations would create an environment of uncertainty.

I urge the Commission to take caution and refrain from enacting rules that could negatively impact the cost of broadband and deter network investment. Instead, we encourage the Commission to focus on increasing broadband adoption, particularly in our minority communities, so that all Americans, regardless of race, can achieve "accomplishments higher than they might have imagined."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "R. Brisé", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Representative Ronald Brisé